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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shinichi YADA

Group Art Unit: 2162

Application No.: 09/977,306

Examiner: I. Woo

Filed: October 16, 2001

Docket No.: 110870

For: ELECTRONIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SERVER, ELECTRONIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT CLIENT, ELECTRONIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT METHOD AND RECORDING MEDIUM FOR RECORDING ELECTRONIC INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 19, 2004 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-22 and 28-30, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-31 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: December 7, 2004

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